

Aviation Advisory Committee
February 15, 2006
Milton, Florida

The Aviation Advisory Committee met on the above date with the following members present: Chairman Randel Compton, Vice-Chairman James Hopmeier, and members Jimmie Beavers and Clay McCutchan. Also present were the County Administrator (Hunter Walker), County Engineer (Roger Blaylock), and Administrative Services Manager (Tammy Simmons). Chairman Compton called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

McCutchan moved approval of the minutes from the January 18, 2006 meeting; Beavers seconded, and the vote carried unanimously (4-0).

Chairman Issues

None

Pensacola Flight Watch, Inc. Issues

Dale Holbert, Pensacola Flight Watch, Inc. said Pensacola Flight Watch Safety Committee has had a lot to do with issues that come before the Aviation Advisory Committee. He said it appears the ASR (Airport Surveillance Radar) approaches at Peter Prince Airport and Pensacola Regional Airport will be eliminated. due to controller inability to maintain currency/proficiency. Holbert said this may be a nationwide issue. He said he has contacted AOPA(Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association) for information regarding this issue. Holbert said an ASR approach is needed in this area for backup.

Holbert discussed the governmental ping pong with FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) regarding the PAPI (Precision Approach Path Indicator) lights. He said the Safety Committee may request the Airport Director meet with Flight Watch's Board to discuss PAPI lights. Holbert said PAPI lights are an important addition to safety.

Holbert said abandonment of the TIS (Traffic Information Service) is a national issue. He said Flight Watch will advocate to keep this capability in areas where there is a heavy volume of air traffic such as Pensacola Regional Airport. Holbert said the amount of money FAA will save by eliminating the TIS is very minimal. There was brief discussion regarding TIS capabilities and safety concerns.

Holbert said Flight Watch has received inquiries concerning military acrobatic training between Navarre Beach and Pensacola Beach. He said the Flight Watch Safety Committee felt this activity utilizes altitudes that do not conflict with GA (General Aviation) aircraft.

Holbert said the Flight Watch Safety Committee is in the process of formulating surveys to address the inadequate GA ramp lighting at Pensacola Regional Airport. Holbert said Discovery Park Phase I groundbreaking ceremony is tentatively scheduled for March 15, 2006. He discussed the two phases of construction and the location of the future park. Holbert said Discovery Park will be a benefit to all of the counties in the area. He also discussed the Plaza of Honor recognizing well know aviators. Holbert said there are only a few Discovery Parks throughout the United States.

Hopmeier suggested the Aviation Advisory Committee make a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners requesting financial support of the Discovery Park. There was discussion regarding a Discovery Park presentation during a Commission Board meeting to identify the benefits of the park and request support from Santa Rosa County. Hopmeier moved for the Aviation Advisory Committee to give a brief presentation to the Board of County Commissioners regarding Discovery Park and request financial support for the park; McCutchan seconded, and the vote carried unanimously (4-0).

After further discussion it was decided the Discovery Park presentation would be presented to the Board of County Commissioners at the March 6, 2006 Committee meeting.

FBO Issues

Davis Glass said the electric gate is working very well. He briefly discussed some maintenance issues; Blaylock said these items are on the county maintenance list to be taken care of. Glass also discussed a recent near mid-air collision.

Engineer/Administrator Issues

Blaylock distributed a list of Peter Prince Airport JPA's (Joint Participation Agreement) the county currently has with the Florida Department of Transportation (Attachment in File). He gave an update of the planned projects. There was discussion with regard to county match funds. Holbert commended the county on its success in obtaining JPA's and the priority order of the airport projects.

Walker said the Board of County Commissioners approved reinstatement of hangar fees effective March 2006. He said the County Attorney is working on the derelict aircraft at the airport.

Other Business/Adjournment

Beavers requested an update on Peter Prince Airport's inclusion in the Emergency Preparedness Plan. Walker said the CEMP (Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan) was submitted to the State of Florida, and the airport is listed as one of the county's assets. Beavers said he felt there should be some specifics outlined. There was discussion regarding auxiliary emergency power at the airport and how to get the airport open as soon as possible during disasters.

McCutchan moved for Hopmeier to pursue getting Peter Prince Airport included in the County Emergency Preparedness Plan as a tool for disaster recovery; Beavers seconded, and the vote carried unanimously (4-0).

McCutchan said he has received information regarding the Civil Air Patrol building, and he will provide this information to

Simmons.

The next scheduled meeting of the Aviation Advisory Committee is Wednesday, March 15, 2006 at 5:00 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Aviation Advisory Committee at this time, the meeting adjourned at 6:10p.m.